

(e) sequences having at least 90% identity to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:

A2 303.

A3 8. (Amended) An oligonucleotide that hybridizes to the sequence recited in SEQ ID NO: 303 from nucleotide 1888 to nucleotide 2731 under moderately stringent conditions.

A4 Sub B2 11. (Amended) A composition comprising a first component selected from the group consisting of physiologically acceptable carriers and immunostimulants, and a second component consisting of a polynucleotide according to claim 1.

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 26, 2002, Applicants elect with traverse, Group I, claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 11-in-part (b), and 15, drawn to isolated polynucleotides, kits, and compositions comprising those polynucleotides, vectors, and transformed host cells, classified in class 536, subclass 23.1, and species SEQ ID NO:303 for examination at this time. Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 11 and 15 are now in the case. Claims 1, 8, and 11 have been amended. It is urged that support for all the above amendments may be found throughout the specification as originally filed (see for example, pages 25-36 and 97-98) and that none of the amendments constitutes new matter. In view of the above election, applicant hereby cancels claims 2, 5-7, 9-10, 12-14, and 16-17 without prejudice to the filing of any divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part application.

The Office has requested that Applicants elect a single species for consideration at this time. Applicants respectfully request that the Office consider SEQ ID NO:302 at the same time as SEQ ID NO:303. Several splice forms of the antigen B11Ag1 (B305D) are disclosed by Applicant in the instant specification. The full length polynucleotide sequence of one such splice form, B11C-9,16, is provided in SEQ ID NO:303, with the encoded polypeptide sequence being provided in SEQ ID NO: 306. A second, related splice form, B11C-8 is also provided (SEQ ID NOs:302, 305), as described in Example 1, the paragraph bridging pages 97-98 of Applicants' specification. Therefore, since SEQ ID NOs:303 and 302 are related in that they are splice forms

of the same gene, a search of SEQ ID NO:303 will necessarily identify sequences related to SEQ ID NO:302. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that it would not constitute an undue burden on the Examiner to search each of these sequences in a single patent application. Thus, Applicants believe that each of SEQ ID NOs:303 and 302 may be properly combined in a single application in accordance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 121 and 37 C.F.R. section 1.141.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made.**"

Consideration of the elected claims is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Specification:

The paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5, has been amended as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/810,936, filed March 16, 2001, which is a continuation in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/699,295, filed October 26, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/590,583, filed June 8, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/577,505, filed May 24, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/534,825, filed March 22, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/429,755, filed October 28, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/289,198, filed April 9, 1999, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/062,451, filed April 17, 1998, which is a continuation in part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/991,789, filed December 11, 1997, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/838,762, filed April 9, 1997, now abandoned, which claims priority from International Patent Application No. PCT/US97/00485, filed January 10, 1997, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/700,014, filed August 20, 1996, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/585,392, filed January 11, 1996, now abandoned. This Application also claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/598,326, filed June 20, 2000, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,423,496, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 08/838,762.

In the Claims:

Claims 2, 5-7, 9-10, 12-14 and 16-17 have been cancelled.

Claims 1, 8, and 11 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the sequence[s] provided in SEQ ID NO[s]:[1, 3-86, 142-298, 301-]303[, 307, 313, 314, 316, 317, 323, 325, 327-330, 335, and 339];

(b) the complement[s] of the sequence[s] provided in SEQ ID NO[s]:[1, 3-86, 142-298, 301-]303[, 307, 313, 314, 316, 317, 323, 325, 327-330, 335, and 339]:

(c) sequences consisting of at least 20 contiguous residues of [a] the sequence provided in SEQ ID NO[s]:[1, 3-86, 142-298, 301-]303[, 307, 313, 314, 316, 317, 323, 325, 327-330, 335, and 339] from nucleotide 1888 to nucleotide 2731;

(d) sequences that hybridize to a sequence provided in SEQ ID NO[s]:[1, 3-86, 142-298, 301-]303[, 307, 313, 314, 316, 317, 323, 325, 327-330, 335, and 339] from nucleotide 1888 to nucleotide 2731, under moderately stringent conditions;

[(e) sequences having at least 75% identity to a sequence of SEQ ID NOs:1, 3-86, 142-298, 301-303, 307, 313, 314, 316, 317, 323, 325, 327-330, 335, and 339;] and

[(f)] (e) sequences having at least 90% identity to [a] the sequence of SEQ ID NO[s]:[1, 3-86, 142-298, 301-]303[, 307, 313, 314, 316, 317, 323, 325, 327-330, 335, and 339]; and

(g) degenerate variants of a sequence provided in SEQ ID NOs:1, 3-86, 142-298, 301-303, 307, 313, 314, 316, 317, 323, 325, 327-330, 335, and 339].

8. (Amended) An oligonucleotide that hybridizes to [a] the sequence recited in SEQ ID NO[s]:[1, 3-86, 142-298, 301-]303[, 307, 313, 314, 316, 317, 323, 325, 327-330, 335, and 339] from nucleotide 1888 to nucleotide 2731 under moderately stringent conditions.

11. (Amended) A composition comprising a first component selected from the group consisting of physiologically acceptable carriers and immunostimulants, and a second component [selected from the group]consisting of[:

- (a) polypeptides according to claim 2;
- (b)] a polynucleotide[s] according to claim 1[;
- (c) antibodies according to claim 5;
- (d) fusion proteins according to claim 7;
- (e) T cell populations according to claim 10; and
- (f) antigen presenting cells that express a polypeptide according to claim 2].